



CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club

Member, American Radio Relay League

DECEMBER 1983

** FD '71 ** FD '73 ** FD '75 ** FD '76 ** WAS ** WAC **

Garrett/W6TRW Repeater: 145.32/down 600 (2A-PL) -- UHF: 442.000 in/447.000 out

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Dec. 6, after work Executive Board Meeting; all are welcome.

Dec. 20, noon Club Meeting R4-1041.

Dec. 31, 8-11am Swapmeet.

For January and Beyond, see the 1984 calendar on the next page--and post it.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Phyllis Gilmore, KE6TC

I've just heard that C&A Roberts is celebrating Christmas by having a drawing; each \$25 worth of merchandise gets you one ticket. One prize is an ICOM World Clock, worth \$99. They'll also be presenting each customer a memento.

Bill Dews reports that the following badges are in: KA6ZTJ, KZ6M, KF6RW, and "President."

We'd also like to welcome new members Barry Allen (WA4TTG), Jim Wike (W6GPE), and Kimi Ego.

TRW ARC LIBRARY

George Lee, W6IOW

The library in Building 65 has QST, 73, and Ham Radio monthly magazines available to members. Lately we have also received ICOM and Kenwood newsletters with all their back issues. October and November copies of the W5YI reports have also come in. You may borrow any of these by signing them out on the log book hung by the bookshelf at the shack. When you return them in person, you are also asked to sign them in to complete the line in the log book. Tnx es 73.

TRW ARC SWAPMEET LIVES ON

Jim McWilliams, W6RTG

The October and November Swapmeets continued to draw large crowds. The parking lot area reserved for sellers has about 375 parking spaces; of these, about 70% were occupied. The buyer crowds are so large that all the adjacent parking areas were full. In general, everyone seems to be having a lot of fun, and I get a lot of good feedback from buyers and sellers as to how much they appreciate our club holding the swapmeets. Many of the attendees make the meet regularly and therefore understand the parking situation—which greatly simplifies traffic control. If you haven't made the swameet, give it a try—remember, it's the last Saturday of each month.

ANY PORT IN A STORM

Vic Musil, KA6NDN

To all members who combine an interest in computers with their interest in amateur radio: The December edition of PC World contains an article titled "The Cassette Port Lives!" by Michael Covington. Covington suggests several interesting uses for the cassette recorder port, including using the motor control relay to key a transmitter and send computer-generated Morse code. Also included is a Basic language program for generating Morse code. The program is written in Microsoft Advance Basic, but could probably be translated into other Basic dialects if necessary. Contact me if interested and unable to locate a copy of the magazine.

— M6TRM CALENDAR 1984 —

The TRM Amateur Radio Club's Executive Board meets after work; everyone is invited to attend. Club meetings are held at noon on the last Tuesday of every month held in R4/1041. The Swapmeet is held the last Saturday of the month.

Club picnics are announced in Crosstalk or by a special flyer.

Any changes in schedule will be announced in Crosstalk.

Join us on the Club's 2-meter repeater: 145.32 MHz output, .600 down, PL 2A required.

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
<p>Membership time now. New Club Officers Announced Meeting, Tuesday, Noon Jan. 31</p> <p>Executive Board Meeting (EBM) Tuesday, Jan. 10</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, Jan. 28 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>Late Membership. EBM, Tuesday, Feb. 14</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon Feb. 28</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, Feb. 25 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>EBM, Tuesday, March 13</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon March 27</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, March 31 8:00 - 11:00 am</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day, Observance Friday after Work March 16</p>	<p>EBM, Tuesday, April 10</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon April 24</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, April 28 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
<p>EBM, Tuesday, May 8</p> <p>Club Picnic, Noon at Park Pre-Field Day, Tues., May 8</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon May 29</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, May 26 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>EBM, Tuesday, June 12</p> <p>Club Picnic, Noon at Park, Wed. June 13</p> <p>Field Day, June 22, 23, 24 Week-End</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tues., Noon, June 26</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, June 30 8:00-11:00am</p>	<p>EBM, Tuesday, July 10</p> <p>Club Picnic, Noon, Monday July 16</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon July 31</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, July 28 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>EBM, Tuesday, August 14</p> <p>Club Picnic, Noon, Friday August 17</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon August 28</p> <p>Swapmeet, Sat., Aug. 25 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>EBM, Tues., September 11</p> <p>Club Picnic, Noon, Sept. 18</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tues., Noon September 25</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, Sept. 29 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>EBM, Tues., October 9</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tues., Noon October 30</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, Oct. 27 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>EBM, Tues., November 13</p> <p>New Club Officer's Nomination Annual Dinner, Saturday November 10</p> <p>Club Meeting, Tues., Noon November 27</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, Nov. 24 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p>EBM, Tuesday, December 4</p> <p>Vote New Club Officers *Early Club Meeting, Noon December 18</p> <p>Merry Christmas 1984, Vacation</p> <p>Swapmeet, Saturday, Dec. 29 8:00 - 11:00 am</p>

MEETING MINUTES

Walt Pearson, N6DZM

General Meeting, 29 November 1983

Twenty-seven people attended. Vice President Fred Garrett conducted the meeting. He introduced new members Jim Wike (W6GPE) and Harry Junker (KZ6M). The club treasury was reported to be in good shape, and the prior meeting minutes were approved as printed in the November Crosstalk.

A new ICOM 2AT has been purchased for communications at the Swapmeet. A new Fluke deviation meter was also bought. Bill Dews is the custodian of club equipment. Contact him to borrow them. Bill will publish a list of club equipment available for member use.

Trustee Bob Hume described the work on the club antennas. He has all the necessary parts and the KT34XA antenna that requires assembly. Volunteers were requested for a work party this Saturday, 3 December.

Irv Emig (W6GC) was commended for his appearance on TV channel 4 describing amateur communications with the Space Shuttle and satellites.

Technical Chairman Jim Richardson requested technical items for publication in Crosstalk. He also described plans for a file of schematics of circuits applicable to amateur equipment.

Librarian George Lee is reviewing all the club data files and is putting the library in top shape.

Nominations for 1984 club officers were opened. No nominations were made from the floor. Nominations Chairman Bill Dews submitted the following nominations: President - Walt Pearson (N6DZM), current club secretary; Vice President - Chris Wachs (WA2KDL); Secretary - John Keller (N6JLS); Treasurer - Paul Herbert (KG6CR); Trustee -- Bob Hume (KG6B), for reelection; and Activities Manager -- Gary Komatsu (K6HPD), also for reelection.

Al Lee (W6KQI), past club president, showed slides of South Island, New Zealand. John Orr (KX6A) described criteria for communicating with the Space Shuttle, and made copies of orbital data and procedures available.

The door prizes for this meeting were two pocket calculators, two digital time pens, a digital alarm clock, a multimeter, and candy.

Executive Board Meeting, 6 December 1983

Attending were Bill Dews, Fred Garrett, Bob Hume, Bill Ivey, John Keller, Gary Komatsu, Walt Pearson, and Bill Rodner.

President Bill Rodner called the meeting to order. Prior meeting minutes were approved as printed in the November Crosstalk.

Vice President Fred Garrett gave the financial report, which shows an excellent year-end balance. Some additions to the accounts are still expected.

Trustee Bob Hume reported that the bottom and midsection of the club antenna tower have been refurbished, with new guy wires installed. The method for installation of the new antenna has been devised, and Bob has requested volunteers to help with completion of the work.

Membership Chairman Bill Dews will send out 1984 membership renewal paperwork. New membership cards are needed with logo revisions that conform to SEA requirements. A motion was made, seconded and passed to spend \$35 for 1000 new cards in five different colors for use in the next five years.

The ballot for 1984 club officers will be mailed early in December. Nominations Chairman Bill Dews has coordinated with Crosstalk Editor Phyllis Gilmore, who will make the mailing. All members are urged to mark their ballots and return them as soon as possible.

SEA Council Representative Bill Ivey reported that the SEA club coordinator position is still open, but that it should not affect the operation of the TRW ARC. Bill also initiated discussion about revising the club constitution, which must be changed to comply with SEA requirements.

Activities Manager Gary Komatsu will call Paul Weisz to determine the status of the new QSL cards. Discussion followed on peel-off tape imprinted with call signs and data that can be applied to any card as desired.

John Keller reported that Jim Richardson has purchased a Butternut 2 MCV-5 two-meter antenna that will be tried as a possible replacement for the club repeater antenna.

FOR SALE: MFJ RF noise bridge Mod 202, \$45. Used once. Paul Lukas, x56132.

SILENT KEY PROBATE

Bill Ivey, WA6QET

Mr Con Keeler, 3209 West Washington, (214) 733-5251, has a small room full of vintage ham equipment that must be converted to its reasonable cash value. He will be at the above address until 3:00 PM on Tuesdays and Fridays. Call him if you are interested. Antique collectors may have a viable source for items.

AMATEURS SOUND A SOUR NOTE

Bill Schrecengost (KE6LB)

(The following is a letter Bill sent to the LA Times. -- ed.)

I am an amateur radio operator and one of the tens of thousands of amateur operators in the Los Angeles area who looked forward to contacting Space Shuttle Columbia astronaut Owen Garriot (W5LFL) on his several orbital passes over Los Angeles. This first-time ever amateur radio communication with an astronaut in space was ruined by a small group of jammers who continuously transmitted on the downlink frequency that was reserved for Astronaut Garriot's transmission to amateur radio operators. These same individuals showed up at each of the several orbital passes and made hearing of Garriot's radio signals impossible. I am embarrassed that these jammers have spoiled this amateur radio event and have given many the impression that this is characteristic of amateur radio operation. I would like to point out to your readers that the amateur radio community is basically dedicated to public service and does not condone this misuse of amateur radio privileges. The local FCC office should investigate this illegal operation and prosecute those responsible.

THE NOTE BECAME A DISONANT CHORD

Phyllis Gilmore, KE6TC

I was blessed, just a little, by the fact that I live not in LA but in San Bernardino. The very mountains that prevent my using several repeaters, that prevent my talking to my family and many of my friends direct, also cut out a lot of the jamming.

But there was still plenty out here. There were the jammers per-se. There were the people calling for W5LFL (as if he were listening on that frequency), calling even when he wasn't in the same hemisphere. There were others, at least five for every

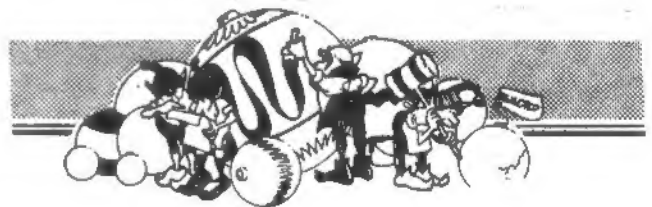
one of the others, who were "policing" the airwaves by telling the other idiots off. The result was chaos.

Yet, for a few blessed seconds, I heard what few others heard. A voice pronouncing several callsigns--then identifying itself as "W5LFL over North America." His signal was unbelievably strong and clear (I'd have thought it some joker if I hadn't heard it before, via W6FXN's transmissions of Shuttle Communications). The thrill was incredible.

But then, even before he had finished saying he would be listening for one minute, Garriott was covered up by dozens of unthinking hams who cancelled each other out in their fruitless quest.

I never heard W5LFL again, for variations on "you dummies" followed--often unidentified. My elation was quickly replaced by fury, and I gave up any hope then or for later passes.

When I first got into this hobby, I thought all hams were intelligent and considerate. Most I knew were TRW ARC members. I still think most hams are intelligent and considerate, but it doesn't take much to ruin a good thing, does it? We can only hope that such behaviour will, eventually, bore its perpetrators, before it causes the rest of us to be bored with the art.



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*

*ye
Editor*